

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**Anchorage Field Office  
4700 BLM Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507  
Phone: (907) 267-1246  
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**DECISION RECORD**

**Dirt/Gravel Storage Site to Support the Anchorage Landfill  
AA-85733  
DOI-BLM-AK-A010-2010-0061-CX**

**Decision:**

It is my decision to authorize a Right-of-Way Grant, case file number AA-85733 for a storage site for stockpiling clean dirt and gravel excavated from unused portions of the Anchorage Landfill, to the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) for a term of approximately three (3) years. Mitigation measures, stipulations and conditions are attached.

**Proposed Action:**

The MOA requires a staging area north of and adjacent to the existing Anchorage Landfill to stockpile dirt and gravel that has been excavated from unused portions of the landfill. The stockpile is utilized as a storage area for operational soils and gravel due to limited storage space in the landfill development area but ultimately, all of this soil and gravel will be used as cover material to support landfill operations. The grant will be authorized under the authority of Title V of the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1761).

**Rationale for the Decision:**

No significant impact will occur to resources as a result of implementing the proposed action. The proposed action is not expected to be controversial, does not establish a precedent, or represent a decision in principle about future considerations, nor is it related to any other proposed actions representing cumulatively significant impacts.

The proposed action is in conformance with the approved Bureau of Land Management Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved March 2008. The project has been considered in the context of public health and safety and consistency with regards to Federal, State, and local laws.

**ANILCA Section 810 Compliance:**

The proposed action will not significantly restrict federal subsistence uses, decrease the abundance of federal subsistence resources, alter the distribution of federal subsistence resources, or limit qualified federal subsistence user access.

**Adverse Energy Impact Compliance:**

This action has been analyzed as required by Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2002-053 to determine if it will cause an adverse impact on energy development. The action will not have an adverse direct or indirect impact on energy development, production or distribution. The preparation of a Statement of Adverse Energy Impact is not required.

**Lands with Wilderness Characteristics:**

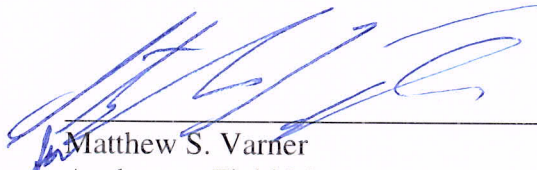
This action has been analyzed for conformance with SO 3310. The lands involved do not have wilderness characteristics thus the proposed action would have no affect on lands with wilderness characteristics.

**Consultation and Coordination:**

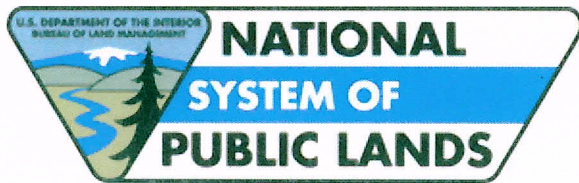
Public participation was accomplished through the development of the Ring of Fire RMP which anticipated routine land authorizations in accordance with Title V of FLPMA. Adequate measures to protect public lands through stipulations and required operating procedures are in place. Internal scoping was conducted by AFO staff and included threatened and endangered species, cultural clearances and ANILCA 810 analysis.

**Compliance and Monitoring Plan:**

Compliance and monitoring of this authorization will be conducted by the BLM Anchorage Field Office. Inspections will be made on a regular basis and after the applicant reclaims the land upon termination of the authorization.

  
Matthew S. Varner  
Anchorage Field Manager, Acting

4/26/11  
Date



## U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

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4700 BLM Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507  
(907) 267-1246

<http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/ado.html>

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### Categorical Exclusion

**Dirt/Gravel Storage Site to Support the Anchorage Landfill**

**Applicant: Municipality of Anchorage**

**Case File Number: AA-85733**

**DOI-BLM-AK-A010-2010-0061-CX**



### Location:

N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 22, T. 14 N., R. 2 W., Seward Meridian,  
Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska

### Prepared By:

Anchorage Field Office

March 2011



**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

**A. Background**

BLM Office: Anchorage Field Office      Case File No: AA-85733

Environmental Document No: DOI-BLM-AK-A010-2010-0061-CX

Proposed Action Title/Types: Three (3) Year Short Term Right-of-Way Grant for a storage site to stockpile excavated dirt and gravel in support of the Anchorage Landfill.

Location of Proposed Action: N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 22, T. 14 N., R. 2 W., Seward Meridian, Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska, containing approximately 70 acres, as depicted on Quad Anchorage B-7.

Description of Proposed Action:

The Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) requires a storage area north of and adjacent to the existing Anchorage Landfill to stockpile clean dirt and gravel that has been excavated from unused pit areas. The stockpile is utilized as a storage area for operational soils and gravel due to limited storage space in the landfill development area but ultimately, all of this soil and gravel will be used as cover material to support landfill operations. Stipulations, clearances and documentation will be required, monitored and enforced.

Applicant (if any): Municipality of Anchorage

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance 43 CFR 1610.5-3(a)**

Land Use Plan Name: Ring of Fire Record of Decision and Approved Management Plan

Date Approved: March 2008

X The proposed action is in conformance with plan because it is specifically provided for in the following planning decisions:

**Rights-of-Way**

The BLM may issue rights-of-way for a variety of uses including but not limited to: roads, water pipelines, electric lines and communication sites under the authority of Title V of FLPMA. Oil and Gas pipelines are issued using the Mineral Leasing Act (1920).

Stipulations developed during the proposal's evaluation will include:

- Restoration, re-vegetation and curtailment of erosion along the right-of-way route;
- Compliance with air and water quality standards;

- Control or prevention of damage to the environment, public or private property and hazards to public health and safety;
- Protection of the subsistence resources and the user's access to those resources;
- Protection of the natural resources associated with public lands;
- Utilization of right-of-ways is common with respect to engineering and technological compatibility will be promoted;
- Coordination with State and local governments, Tribal entities, interested groups and individuals takes place to the fullest extent possible;
- The Mountain Goat Monitoring and Control Area is identified as a Right-of-Way Avoidance area.

### **C. NEPA Compliance**

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with United States Department of the Interior 43 CFR §46.210 or United States Department of Interior Manual, Part 516, Chapter 11 which provides:

**Realty E-19** Issuance of short-term (3 years or less) rights-of-way or land use authorizations for such uses as storage sites, apiary sites, and construction sites where the proposal includes rehabilitation to restore the land to its natural or original condition.

### **D. Extraordinary Circumstances**

The following Departmental List of Extraordinary Circumstances applies to individual actions. Departmental instructions mandate that environmental documents must be prepared for actions which may:

	YES	NO
1. Have significant adverse impacts on public health or safety.	_____	<u>X</u>
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	_____	<u>X</u>
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].	_____	<u>X</u>



- |     |   |       |            |
|-----|---|-------|------------|
| 4.  | Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.   | _____ | X<br>_____ |
| 5.  | Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.   | _____ | X<br>_____ |
| 6.  | Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.   | _____ | X<br>_____ |
| 7.  | Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.  | _____ | X<br>_____ |
| 8.  | Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.  | _____ | X<br>_____ |
| 9.  | Violate Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.   | _____ | X<br>_____ |
| 10. | Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).  | _____ | X<br>_____ |
| 11. | Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affects the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).  | _____ | X<br>_____ |
| 12. | Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112). | _____ | X<br>_____ |

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances in 43 CFR § 46.215 are pertinent.

**Lands with Wilderness Characteristics**

The proposed action has been reviewed for the following Wilderness Characteristics and found to contain none of the characteristics:

- 1) Size-roadless areas of over 5000 acres of contiguous BLM lands.
- 2) Naturalness-affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the works of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor
- 3) Outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.
- 4) Supplemental values-if size, naturalness, and solitude/outstanding opportunities are met, then consider if the area contains ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Supplemental values are not required to be present in order to classify an area as Lands with Wilderness Characteristics.

The proposed location is on the Fort Richardson military reservation alongside and within 100 yards of the Glenn Highway within the city limits of the Municipality of Anchorage.

**Compliance and Monitoring Responsibility:** Anchorage Field Office Realty Staff

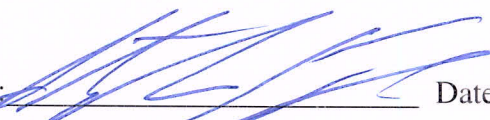
**E. Signature**

The proposed action is in conformance with a management framework plan or a resource management plan, 43 CFR § 1610.8(a)(3). The Department of the Interior has determined and found that the proposed action is within a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and that neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required, 40 CFR § 1508.4.

This action has been analyzed as required by Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2002-053 to determine if it will cause an adverse impact on energy development. The action will not have an adverse direct or indirect impact on energy development, production or distribution. The preparation of a Statement of Adverse Energy Impact is not required.

It is therefore my decision to implement the action, as described, with appropriate mitigation measures or stipulations.

Mitigation Measures/Stipulations: (See attached Appendices)

Authorized Official:  Date: 4/26/11  
*ACTING FIELD MANAGER*